

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Patent Office for the careful attention accorded this Application and respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the Amendment above and remarks set forth below.

In response to the Office Action mailed May 16, 2006, Applicants have canceled claims 93-96 without prejudice or disclaimer, and added new Claims 97-100, based on the canceled claims. Applicants have also amended the Title to Invention and Abstract of Disclosure.

New independent claim 97 describes an automatically-activated laser scanning 2-D bar code symbol reading system employing the use of a visible linear-type laser scanning pattern and the automatic generation of an audible feedback signal during scan data capturing and buffering operations.

As recited in rewritten Claim 97, the system includes a laser scanning 2-D bar code symbol reading mechanism that automatically produces a visible linear-type laser scanning pattern for scanning a 2-D bar code symbol structure on an object as its hand-supportable housing is manually transported past a 2-D bar code symbol along a height-wise direction by an operator, automatically capturing lines of scan data from the scanned 2-D bar code symbol structure, decode processing the scan data, and generating a symbol character data string representative of the read 2-D bar code symbol.

As recited in rewritten Claim 97, the laser scanning 2-D bar code symbol reading mechanism also includes

(a) a bar code symbol data detector for automatically detecting each line of said 2-D bar code symbol during its bar code reading mode of operation, and automatically producing a line of scan data for buffering in a buffer memory, and

(b) an audible data capture buffering indicator for automatically generating an audible feedback signal to the operator as each line of scan data is captured and buffered in buffer memory by the bar code symbol data detector so as to indicate to the operator that lines of

scan data are being produced and buffered as the operator manually transports the hand-supportable housing past the 2-D bar code symbol along its height-wise direction.

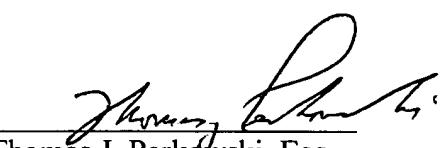
Applicants have reviewed US Patent Nos. 6,415,982 B2 to Bridgelall et al. and 5,256,865 to Wike, Jr et al., and these prior art references clearly fail to disclose, teach or suggest such a system as defined by rewritten Claim 97, wherein audible feedback signals are automatically generated as a visible linear-type (1D) laser scanning pattern, automatically generated in response to the detection of an object, is manually transported past a 2-D bar code symbol along its height-wise direction by an operator, and as each line of scan data is captured and buffered in buffer memory by a bar code symbol data detector, thereby indicating to the operator that lines of scan data are being captured and buffered during the scanning operations.

In view therefore, of the Amendment and Remarks set forth above, the present invention defined by new Claims 97-100 is firmly believed to be neither anticipated by, nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art of record, and that the present application is now in condition for allowance.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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